

## C L A I M S

1. A voice processing system characterized by  
2 comprising:  
3 a terminal which transmits input voice  
4 information and outputs received information;  
5 a voice processing unit which performs voice  
6 processing on the basis of voice information from said  
7 terminal; and  
8 an information providing unit which receives a  
9 voice processing result obtained by said voice  
10 processing unit and transmits information reflecting the  
11 voice processing result to said terminal,  
12 wherein said terminal, said voice processing  
13 unit, and said information providing unit share  
14 processing identification information corresponding to a  
15 series of processes performed by said voice processing  
16 unit and said information providing unit on the basis of  
17 the voice information.

2. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that said voice processing  
3 unit comprises voice processing executing means for  
4 performing at least one of voice recognition processing,  
5 interaction processing, and collation processing as the  
6 voice processing.

3. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that one of said information  
3 providing unit and said voice processing unit comprises

4 identification information generating means for  
5 generating the processing identification information.

4. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 3, characterized in that one of said information  
3 providing unit and said voice processing unit further  
4 comprises communication means for transmitting the  
5 generated processing identification information to said  
6 terminal.

5. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 4, characterized in that said terminal comprises  
3 communication means for receiving the processing  
4 identification information generated by one of said  
5 information providing unit and said voice processing  
6 unit and transmitting the received processing  
7 identification information to the other of said  
8 information providing unit and said voice processing  
9 unit.

6. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 4, wherein said terminal comprises communication  
3 means for receiving the processing identification  
4 information generated by said identification information  
5 generating means of said information providing unit and  
6 transmitting the received processing identification  
7 information to said voice processing unit together with  
8 the input voice information.

7. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that the processing

3 identification information is unique identification  
4 information of said terminal.

8. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 7, characterized in that said terminal comprises  
3 unique identification information output means  
4 for outputting the unique identification information,  
5 and  
6 communication means for transmitting the  
7 unique identification information from said unique  
8 identification information means as the processing  
9 identification information to said voice processing unit  
10 and said information providing unit.

9. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 8, characterized in that said unique  
3 identification information output means outputs, as the  
4 unique identification information without any change,  
5 terminal identification information held in advance by  
6 said terminal.

10. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 8, characterized in that said unique  
3 identification information output means comprises means  
4 for generating and outputting the unique identification  
5 information on the basis of terminal identification  
6 information held in advance by said terminal.

11. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that  
3 said terminal comprises communication means

4 for transmitting the processing identification  
5 information to said voice processing unit together with  
6 the input voice information, and  
7               said voice processing unit comprises  
8               reception means for receiving the voice  
9 information and the processing identification  
10 information from said terminal,  
11               voice processing executing means for executing  
12 voice processing for the received voice information, and  
13               transmission means for transmitting the  
14 processing identification information to said  
15 information providing unit upon containing the  
16 information in a voice processing result obtained by  
17 said voice processing executing means.

12. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that said terminal comprises  
3 communication means for transmitting a transmission  
4 packet having the processing identification information  
5 stored in a header portion to said voice processing  
6 unit.

13. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that  
3               said information providing unit comprises  
4               reception means for receiving, together with  
5 the processing identification information, a voice  
6 processing result obtained by said voice processing  
7 unit,

8                   information management means for preparing  
9   resultant information reflecting the voice processing  
10   result, in correspondence with the processing  
11   identification information, and

12                   transmission means for transmitting the  
13   resultant information to said terminal, and

14                   said terminal comprises output means for  
15   outputting the resultant information from said  
16   information providing unit.

                  14. A voice processing system according to  
2   claim 1, characterized in that

3                   said information providing unit comprises  
4                   reception means for receiving, together with  
5   the processing identification information, a voice  
6   processing result obtained by said voice processing  
7   unit,

8                   information management means for preparing  
9   content information reflecting the voice processing  
10   result, in correspondence with the processing  
11   identification information, and

12                   transmission means for transmitting the  
13   content information to said terminal, and

14                   said terminal comprises output means for  
15   outputting the content information from said information  
16   providing unit.

                  15. A voice processing system according to  
2   claim 1, characterized in that said information

3 providing unit comprises  
4 first reception means for receiving, together  
5 with the processing identification information, a voice  
6 processing result obtained by said voice processing  
7 unit, and  
8 information management means for placing  
9 content information reflecting the voice processing  
10 result in a place represented by URL (Uniform Resource  
11 Locator) information containing the processing  
12 identification information, and  
13 first transmission for transmitting the  
14 content information corresponding to the URL information  
15 designated by said terminal to said terminal.

16. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 15, characterized in that said information  
3 providing unit further comprises  
4 second transmission means for transmitting  
5 recognition resultant information corresponding to input  
6 voice which reflects the voice processing result to said  
7 terminal,  
8 third transmission means for transmitting, to  
9 said terminal, the content information corresponding to  
10 the URL information designated by said terminal which  
11 has received the recognition resultant information.

17. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that the voice information is  
3 at least one of digitalized voice data, compressed voice

4 data, and a feature vector.

18. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that

3           said terminal, said voice processing unit, and  
4 said information providing unit are respectively a  
5 client, a voice processing server, and an information  
6 providing server which are communication-connected to  
7 each other,

8           said client comprises

9           first transmission means for transmitting a  
10 service request signal to said information providing  
11 server when a service request is issued,

12           reception means for receiving the processing  
13 identification information transmitted from said  
14 information providing server as a response to the  
15 service request signal, and

16           second transmission means for transmitting the  
17 input voice information to said voice processing server  
18 together with the processing identification information,

19           said voice processing server comprises

20           reception means for receiving the voice  
21 information and the processing identification  
22 information from said client,

23           voice processing executing means for executing  
24 voice processing for the received voice information, and

25           transmission means for transmitting a voice  
26 processing result obtained by said voice processing

27 executing means and the processing identification  
28 information to said information providing server, and  
29           said information providing server comprises  
30           reception means for receiving the service  
31 request signal from said client and the voice processing  
32 result and the processing identification information  
33 from said voice processing server,  
34           identification information generating means  
35 for generating the processing identification information  
36 when the service request signal is received,  
37           information management means for generating  
38 information to be presented to said client on the basis  
39 of the processing identification information generated  
40 by said identification information generating means, and  
41 generating information reflecting the voice processing  
42 result in correspondence with the processing  
43 identification information from said voice processing  
44 server, and  
45           transmission means for transmitting the  
46 generated processing identification information and the  
47 information to said client.

19. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that  
3           said terminal, said voice processing unit, and  
4 said information providing unit are respectively a  
5 client, a voice processing server, and an information  
6 providing server which are communication-connected to



7 each other,  
8               said client comprises  
9               unique identification information output means  
10 for outputting unique identification information of said  
11 client as the processing identification information,  
12               first transmission means for transmitting a  
13 service request signal and the processing identification  
14 information to said information providing server when a  
15 service request is issued, and  
16               second transmission means for transmitting the  
17 input voice information to said voice processing server  
18 together with the processing identification information,  
19               said voice processing server comprises  
20               reception means for receiving the voice  
21 information and the processing identification  
22 information from said client,  
23               voice processing executing means for executing  
24 voice processing for the received voice information, and  
25               transmission means for transmitting a voice  
26 processing result obtained by said voice processing  
27 means and the processing identification information to  
28 said information providing server, and  
29               said information providing server comprises  
30               reception means for receiving the service  
31 request signal and the processing identification  
32 information from said client and the voice processing  
33 result and the processing identification information

34 from said voice processing server,  
35 information management means for generating  
36 information to be presented to said client on the basis  
37 of the processing identification information from said  
38 client, and generating information reflecting the voice  
39 processing result in correspondence with the processing  
40 identification information from said voice processing  
41 server, and

42 transmission means for transmitting the  
43 information generated by said information management  
44 means to said client.

20. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 19, characterized in that said unique  
3 identification information output means uses, as the  
4 unique identification information, terminal  
5 identification information held in advance by said  
6 client.

21. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 19, characterized in that said unique  
3 identification information output means comprises means  
4 for generating the unique identification information on  
5 the basis of terminal identification information held in  
6 advance by said client.

22. A voice processing system according to  
2 claim 1, characterized in that  
3 said terminal, said voice processing unit, and  
4 said information providing unit are respectively a

5 client, a voice processing server, and an information  
6 providing server which are communication-connected to  
7 each other,  
8           said client comprises  
9           first transmission means for transmitting a  
10 service request signal to said information providing  
11 server when a service request is issued,  
12           second transmission means for transmitting a  
13 voice processing request signal to said voice processing  
14 server,  
15           reception means for receiving the processing  
16 identification information transmitted from said voice  
17 processing server as a response to the voice processing  
18 request signal,  
19           third transmission means for transmitting the  
20 received processing identification information to said  
21 information providing server, and  
22           fourth transmission means for transmitting the  
23 input voice information to said voice processing server  
24 together with the processing identification information,  
25           said voice processing server comprises  
26           first reception means for receiving the voice  
27 processing request signal from said client,  
28           identification information generating means  
29 for generating the processing identification information  
30 when the voice processing request signal is received,  
31           first transmission means for transmitting the

32 generated processing identification information to said  
33 client,  
34 second reception means for receiving the voice  
35 information and the processing identification  
36 information from said client,  
37 voice processing executing means for executing  
38 voice processing for the voice information from said  
39 client, and  
40 transmission means for transmitting a voice  
41 processing result obtained by said voice processing  
42 executing means and the processing identification  
43 information from said client to said information  
44 providing server, and  
45 said information providing server comprises  
46 reception means for receiving the service  
47 request signal and the processing identification  
48 information from said client and the voice processing  
49 result and the processing identification information  
50 from said voice processing server,  
51 information management means for generating  
52 information to be presented to said client on the basis  
53 of the service request signal from said client and  
54 generating information reflecting the voice processing  
55 result in correspondence with the processing  
56 identification information from said voice processing  
57 server, and  
58 transmission means for transmitting the

59 information generated by said information management  
60 means to said client.

23. A voice processing method characterized  
2 by comprising the steps of:  
3 causing a terminal to transmit input voice  
4 information to a voice processing unit;  
5 causing the voice processing unit to perform  
6 voice processing for the voice information from the  
7 terminal;  
8 transmitting a voice processing result to an  
9 information providing unit; and  
10 causing the information providing unit to  
11 prepare information reflecting the voice processing  
12 result obtained by the voice processing unit, and the  
13 step of transmitting the prepared information to the  
14 terminal,  
15 wherein the terminal, the voice processing  
16 unit, and the information providing unit share  
17 processing identification information corresponding to a  
18 series of processes performed by the voice processing  
19 unit and the information providing unit on the basis of  
20 the voice information.

24. A voice processing method according to  
2 claim 23, characterized in that  
3 the terminal, the voice processing unit, and  
4 the information providing unit are respectively a  
5 client, a voice processing server, and an information

6 providing server which are communication-connected to  
7 each other, and  
8 the method comprises the steps of  
9 causing the client to transmit a service  
10 request signal to the information providing server,  
11 causing the information providing server to  
12 generate the processing identification information when  
13 receiving the service request signal, generating  
14 information to be presented to the client on the basis  
15 of the processing identification information, and  
16 transmitting the generated processing identification  
17 information and the information to the client,  
18 causing the client to transmit the input voice  
19 information to the voice processing server together with  
20 the processing identification information from the  
21 information providing server,  
22 causing the voice processing server to perform  
23 voice processing for the voice information from the  
24 client, and transmitting a voice processing result and  
25 the processing identification information from the  
26 client to the information providing server, and  
27 causing the information providing server to  
28 prepare, in correspondence with the processing  
29 identification information from the voice processing  
30 server, information reflecting the voice processing  
31 result obtained by the voice processing server, and  
32 transmitting the prepared information to the terminal.

25. A voice processing method according to  
2 claim 23, characterized in that  
3 the terminal, the voice processing unit, and  
4 the information providing unit are respectively a  
5 client, a voice processing server, and an information  
6 providing server which are communication-connected to  
7 each other, and  
8 the method comprises the steps of  
9 causing the client to transmit a service  
10 request signal and the processing identification  
11 information to the information providing server,  
12 causing the information providing server to  
13 generate information to be presented to the client on  
14 the basis of the processing identification information  
15 when receiving the service request signal and the  
16 processing identification information, and transmitting  
17 the generated information to the client,  
18 causing the client to transmit the input voice  
19 information to the voice processing server together with  
20 the processing identification information after  
21 receiving the information from the information providing  
22 server,  
23 causing the voice processing server to perform  
24 voice processing for the voice information from the  
25 client, and transmitting a voice processing result and  
26 the processing identification information from the  
27 client to the information providing server, and

28 causing the information providing server to  
29 prepare, in correspondence with the processing  
30 identification information from the voice processing  
31 server, information reflecting the voice processing  
32 result obtained by the voice processing server, and  
33 transmitting the prepared information to the terminal.

26. A voice processing method according to  
2 claim 25, characterized by further comprising the step  
3 of causing the client to output unique identification  
4 information of the client,

5 wherein the step of causing the client to  
6 transmit the processing identification information  
7 comprises the step of transmitting the unique  
8 identification information of the client as the  
9 processing identification information.

27. A voice processing method according to  
2 claim 26, characterized in that the step of outputting  
3 comprises the step of using terminal identification  
4 information held in advance by the client as the unique  
5 identification information.

28. A voice processing method according to  
2 claim 26, characterized in that the step of outputting  
3 comprises the step of generating the unique  
4 identification information on the basis of terminal  
5 identification information held in advance by the  
6 client.

29. A voice processing method according to



2 claim 23, characterized in that  
3 the terminal, the voice processing unit, and  
4 the information providing unit are respectively a  
5 client, a voice processing server, and an information  
6 providing server which are communication-connected to  
7 each other, and  
8 the method comprises the steps of  
9 causing the client to transmit a service  
10 request signal to the information providing server,  
11 causing the information providing server to  
12 generate information to be presented to the client when  
13 receiving the service request signal, and transmitting  
14 the generated information to the client,  
15 causing the client to transmit a voice  
16 processing request signal to the voice processing  
17 server,  
18 causing the voice processing server to  
19 generate the processing identification information when  
20 receiving the voice processing request signal, and  
21 transmitting the processing identification information  
22 to the client,  
23 causing the client to receive the processing  
24 identification information from the voice processing  
25 server and transmit the processing identification  
26 information to the information providing server, and  
27 transmitting the input voice information to the voice  
28 processing server together with the processing

29 identification information,  
30 causing the voice processing server to perform  
31 voice processing for the voice information from the  
32 client, and transmitting a voice processing result and  
33 the processing identification information from the  
34 client to the information providing server, and  
35 causing the information providing server to  
36 prepare, in correspondence with the processing  
37 identification information from the voice processing  
38 server, information reflecting the voice processing  
39 result obtained by the voice processing server, and  
40 transmitting the prepared information to the terminal.

30. An information providing server unit  
2 characterized by comprising:

3 first reception means for receiving a service  
4 request signal from a client;

5 identification information generating means  
6 for generating processing identification information  
7 corresponding to a series of processes performed on the  
8 basis of voice information from said client when the  
9 service request signal is received;

10 means for generating first information to be  
11 presented to said client on the basis of the processing  
12 identification information;

13 first transmission means for transmitting the  
14 processing identification information and the first  
15 information to said client;

16               second reception means for receiving a voice  
17 processing result and the processing identification  
18 information from a voice processing server which  
19 performs voice processing upon receiving the voice  
20 signal and the processing identification information  
21 from said client;  
22               means for generating second information  
23 reflecting the voice processing result in correspondence  
24 with the processing identification information from the  
25 voice processing server; and  
26               second transmission means for transmitting the  
27 second information to said client.

                  31. A client unit characterized by  
2 comprising:  
3               unique identification information output means  
4 for outputting unique identification information of the  
5 client unit as processing identification information  
6 corresponding to a series of processes performed by a  
7 voice processing server which performs voice processing  
8 for voice information from the client unit and an  
9 information providing server which transmits information  
10 reflecting a voice processing result obtained by said  
11 voice processing server to the client unit;  
12               first transmission means for transmitting a  
13 service request signal and the processing identification  
14 information to said information providing server when a  
15 service request is issued; and

16           second transmission means for transmitting the  
17 input voice information to said voice processing server  
18 together with the processing identification information.

32. A client unit according to claim 31,  
2 characterized in that said unique identification  
3 information output means uses, as the unique  
4 identification information without any change, terminal  
5 identification information held in advance by the client  
6 unit.

33. A client unit according to claim 31,  
2 characterized in that said unique identification  
3 information output means comprises means for generating  
4 the unique identification information on the basis of  
5 terminal identification information held in advance by  
6 the client unit.

34. A voice processing server unit  
2 characterized by comprising:  
3           first reception means for receiving a voice  
4 processing request signal from a client;  
5           identification information generating means  
6 for generating processing identification information  
7 corresponding to a series of processes performed on the  
8 basis of voice information from said client when the  
9 voice processing request signal is received;  
10           first transmission means for transmitting the  
11 processing identification information to said client;  
12           second reception means for receiving the voice

13 information and the processing identification  
14 information from said client;  
15               voice processing executing means for  
16 performing voice processing for the voice information  
17 from said client; and  
18               transmission means for transmitting, to an  
19 information providing server, a voice processing result  
20 obtained by said voice processing executing means and  
21 the processing identification information from said  
22 client, while generating information reflecting the  
23 voice processing result in correspondence with the  
24 processing identification information.

35. A program which causes a computer serving  
2 as an information providing server unit to implement:  
3               a first reception function of receiving a  
4 service request signal from a client;  
5               an identification information generating  
6 function of generating processing identification  
7 information corresponding to a series of processes  
8 performed on the basis of voice information from the  
9 client when the service request signal is received;  
10              a function of generating first information to  
11 be presented to the client on the basis of the  
12 processing identification information;  
13              a first transmission function of transmitting  
14 the processing identification information and the first  
15 information to the client;

16                   a second reception function of receiving the  
17 voice signal and the processing identification  
18 information from the client and receiving a voice  
19 processing result and the processing identification  
20 information from a voice processing server which  
21 performs voice processing;  
22                   a function of generating second information  
23 reflecting the voice processing result in correspondence  
24 with the processing identification information from the  
25 voice processing server; and  
26                   a second transmission function of transmitting  
27 the second information to the client.

                  36. A program which causes a computer serving  
2 as a client unit to implement:

3                   a unique identification information output  
4 function of outputting unique identification information  
5 of the client unit as processing identification  
6 information corresponding to a series of processes  
7 performed by a voice processing server which performs  
8 voice processing for voice information from the client  
9 unit and an information providing server which transmits  
10 information reflecting a voice processing result to the  
11 client unit;

12                   a first transmission function of transmitting  
13 a service request signal and the processing  
14 identification information to the information providing  
15 server when a service request is issued; and

16           a second transmission function of transmitting  
17 the input voice information and the processing  
18 identification information to the voice processing  
19 server.

37. A program according to claim 36, wherein  
2 as the unique identification information output  
3 function, the program implements a function of using  
4 terminal identification information held in advance by  
5 the client unit as the unique identification information  
6 without any change.

38. A program according to claim 36, wherein  
2 as the unique identification information output  
3 function, the program implements a function of  
4 generating the unique identification information on the  
5 basis of terminal identification information held in  
6 advance by the client unit.

39. A program which causes a computer serving  
2 as a voice processing server unit to implement:  
3           a first reception function of receiving a  
4 voice processing request signal from a client;  
5           an identification information generating  
6 function of generating processing identification  
7 information corresponding to a series of processes  
8 performed on the basis of voice information from the  
9 client when the voice processing request signal is  
10 received;  
11           a first transmission function of transmitting

12 the processing identification information to the client;  
13 a second reception function of receiving the  
14 voice information and the processing identification  
15 information from the client;  
16 a voice processing execution function of  
17 executing voice processing for the voice information  
18 from the client; and  
19 a transmission function of transmitting, to an  
20 information providing server, a voice processing result  
21 obtained by the voice processing execution function and  
22 the processing identification information from the  
23 client, while generating information reflecting the  
24 voice processing result in correspondence with the  
25 processing identification information.

40. An information processing system  
2 characterized by comprising a client and a plurality of  
3 servers,  
4 wherein a series of processes (A), (B), and  
5 (C):  
6 (A) in association with processing executed by  
7 at least one of said plurality of servers on the basis  
8 of a request from said client, processing is performed  
9 by another server in accordance with the request,  
10 (B) exchanging a processing result between  
11 said another server and said one server, and  
12 (C) causing said one server to generate  
13 response information in response to the request on the



14 basis of the processing result  
15 are managed by common processing identification  
16 information shared by said client, said one server, and  
17 said another server.

41. An information processing system  
2 according to claim 40, characterized in that the  
3 processing identification information is generated by  
4 one of said one server and said another server.

42. An information processing system  
2 according to claim 40, characterized in that as the  
3 processing identification information, unique  
4 identification information of said client is used.

43. An information processing system  
2 according to claim 40, characterized in that  
3 said one server comprises a Web server, and  
4 said another server comprises a voice processing server  
5 which performs voice processing, and  
6 voice uttered by a user which is input to said  
7 client is managed by the processing identification  
8 information.